

Prayer

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayer position. The hands are positioned in the lower center of the frame, with fingers interlaced. A strong, diagonal beam of light from the left side of the frame illuminates the hands, creating a high-contrast effect against the dark, shadowed background. The person is wearing a dark, textured garment, possibly a sweater or robe, which is visible at the bottom right. The overall mood is solemn and spiritual.

9. Intercessory Prayer

James 5:16 "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Meaning: We have an obligation to pray one for another. An intercessor is one who pleads on behalf of another. Jesus did this for Peter (Luke 22:32); Abraham interceded for Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18:23-32); Moses for the children of Israel (Exodus 32:11-14); Paul for Onesimus (Philemon 10-18); and the list could go on and on. Samuel said it would be a sin for him if he did not intercede for Israel (I Samuel 12:23).

Application: People are changed, encouraged, helped, strengthened, healed, brought back to God, saved, protected, and given a second chance because of prayers offered up to God on their behalf. What God might not do for a person, He will do for you, if you prayed for him. Lot was spared because of Abraham's prayers, as was Aaron because of Moses' prayers. The closer a person is to God, the more power they have to intercede for another. Just as a lawyer intercedes before a judge for his client, so we are commanded to intercede before God for others!

Other Verses for Study: Job 16:21; Ephesians 6:18; Colossians 1:9; II Thessalonians 3:1; I Timothy 2:1; Hebrews 13:18

1. What is an intercessor? _____
2. Name three examples of intercessors in the Bible?

3. What gives more power to intercessory prayer?

"The Christian must pray for all things, of course, but prayers for people are infinitely more important, just as people are infinitely more important than things."